

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the present application. Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

**Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-16 were pending in this application. Claims 1-16 have been canceled, and claims 17-27 have been added. Accordingly, claims 17-27 are now pending in the present application. Claim 17 is independent. Claims 18-27 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 17.

**Amendments to the Claims**

Claims 1-16 have been canceled, and new claims 17-27 have been added, by way of this reply. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, in Figs. 1-4 and paragraphs [0031]-[0043] of the published application. No new matter has been added.

**Objections to the Claims**

Claims 8-12 were objected to in the Office Action. Claims 8-12 have been canceled. Thus, this objection is now moot.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1-8 and 13-16 of the present application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,255,684 ("Mischler"). Claims 1-8 and 13-16 have been canceled by way of this reply. Thus, this rejection is now moot.

**New Claims**

New claims 17-27 have been added by way of this reply. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, in 1-4 and paragraphs [0031]-[0043] of the published application. No new matter has been added.

As shown, for example, in Figures 1-4, in an embodiment of the claimed invention, the plurality of individual stator magnetisable pole members 4, which are made of the soft magnetic composite material, form a self-supporting ring that is fixably supported by the stator frame 3.

Each of the plurality of individual stator magnetisable pole members 3 has coil windings about the stator magnetisable pole member 3 in order to have appropriate magnetic properties. Because each stator magnetisable pole member 3 is an independent piece of soft magnetic composite material, the coil windings which surround each of these stator poles can easily be configured thereon before being joined to the stator frame 3.


The prior art is silent regarding an electric machine having a strengthened substantially cylindrical stator frame constructed of a stack of electrical steel laminations in conjunction with individual stator magnetisable pole members made of a soft magnetic composite material fixably supported within the stator frame.

**Conclusion**

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account No. 50-0591, under Order No. 04465/026001 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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